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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Ravi Bommegowda

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EXAMINER

SYED, FARHAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2165

DATE MAILED: 08/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/728,433	Applicant(s) BOMMEGOWDA ET AL.	
	Examiner Farhan M. Syed	Art Unit 2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Response to Amendment

Drawings

2. Applicant's arguments, see page 9-10, filed 02 June 2006, with respect to the Applicant's drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of the Applicant's drawings in the Examiner's office action dated 12 May 2006 has been withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 02 June 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the reasons set forth below.

The Applicant argues:

(1) "Marpe does not disclose or reasonably suggest the features noted above, in particular, the feature of sending the search criteria to the second client, designed to already access the database of interest specified by a user."

(2) "In support of this position, applicant first notes that Marpe does not disclose or reasonably suggest databases which are accessible only by some client systems."

(3) "The applicant does not find disclosure or suggestion in Marpe that only some users can create or access items, and that the other users are required to send requests to the creating user to search the created items."

With respect to points 1-3, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Marpe teaches a computer readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for causing a first client system to enable a user to access a plurality of databases through a plurality of client systems contained in a manufacturing plant, where each of said plurality of client systems is already designed to access data in only some of said plurality of databases, wherein execution of said one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors contained in said first client system causes said one or more processors to perform the action of (i.e. "*A method for facilitating effective access to application specific data in a discussion database. In use, the data is received from multiple users in a plurality of categories. To disseminate the data, access is provided to the data via an interface which not only lists, but also describes the categories. By describing the categories, a user may effectively select the categories on the interface which are most relevant. Such selection in turn subscribes the user to the data in the selected categories.*") The preceding text clearly indicates that a first client system to enable user to access a plurality of databases is an interface, the plurality of client systems are multiple users, and the manufacturing plant is the intended use of using the database system to manipulate data. In addition, the prior art of record reasonably anticipates that databases are accessed by some client systems (i.e. databases) by the fact that data is received from multiple users in a plurality of categories and that effective access clearly indicates that certain multiple users have accessibility to certain databases, which clearly anticipates that multiple users can also include some of the users accessing some databases.

)(Abstract): executing a user application which is related to operation/control of a

manufacturing process in said manufacturing plant (i.e. *"A method for facilitating effective access to application specific data in a discussion database."*) The preceding text clearly indicates that a user application is an application. The operation/control of a manufacturing process in a manufacturing plant is the intended use of the database system.)(Abstract); enabling said user to instantiate a user interface from said user application (i.e. *"As such, the Discussion Database Interface Page 600 is utilized by the user to subscribe to and access individual Discussion Groups 504."*) The preceding text clearly indicates that a user interface is a discussion database interface page from the user application, which is the discussion database. That is, the discussion database interface page provides an instance for the user to use the interface.)(Column 17, lines 27-29); enabling said user to specify a database of interest and a search criteria using said user interface, where a second client contained in said plurality of client systems is already designed to access data in said database of interest (i.e. *"Another area of functionality allows the user to search for one or more Status Reports in the Workbench database using a specified search criteria. FIG. 10A depicts an embodiment of the present invention which provides a method 1020 for querying a database which is storing a plurality of items generated by multiple users. In operation 1022, users are allowed to create an item with a plurality of fields. The item is stored in a database in operation 1024. The item should be stored with an identifier corresponding to the user. Upon receipt of a search query in operation 1026, the database is searched in operation 1028 using the search query."*) The preceding text clearly illustrates that the workbench database is a user specified database and the search criteria is the specified search criteria and the database of interest, which is the workbench database is accessible from a second client, which are users.)(column 24, lines 38-49); sending said search criteria to said second client(i.e. *"1. From this screen the user can: 1. Click "Edit search criteria" to return to the main search screen to edit the search criteria.2. Click "Generate Detail Report" to create a report of all the Status Reports that met the search criteria."*) The preceding text clearly indicates that when a user clicks "Generate Detail Report," the search criteria are sent to the second client. In addition, the fact that data is received from multiple

users, may be reasonably anticipated that the received data is by a second user, a third user, etc. When disseminating data, one can reasonably anticipate that the dissemination of data received by users would be those users who are designed to receive such access.)(Column 25, lines 41-43; Abstract); receiving a corresponding response (i.e. *"3. Click "Generate Summary Report" to create a report that displays a listing of all status reports that met the search criteria."* The preceding text clearly indicates that the receiving a corresponding response is the result of clicking "Generate Summary Report.")(Column 25, lines 43-45); and displaying said corresponding response (i.e. *"3. Click "Generate Summary Report" to create a report that displays a listing of all status reports that met the search criteria. 4. Click on an Owner to see the specific Status Report."* The preceding text clearly indicates that displaying is the displays a list of all status reports that met the search criteria.)(column 25, lines 45-50).

Any other arguments, in reference to points 1-3, made by the Applicant are more limiting than the claim language.

(4) "Marpe does not disclose or reasonably suggest the features noted above with respect to currently amended claim 2."

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Marpe teaches a computer readable medium further comprising of: enabling said user to specify any desired one of multiple client systems and an operation associated with data forming said corresponding response, said multiple client systems being comprised in said plurality of client systems (i.e. *" A method for facilitating effective access to application specific data in a discussion database. In use, the data is received from multiple users in a plurality of categories. To disseminate the data, access is provided to the data via an interface which not only lists, but also describes the categories. By describing*

the categories, a user may effectively select the categories on the interface which are most relevant. Such selection in turn subscribes the user to the data in the selected categories.” “As such, the Discussion Database Interface Page 600 is utilized by the user to subscribe to and access individual Discussion Groups 504. When a user wishes to join a Discussion Group 504, the user selects the appropriate Discussion Group 504 from the Discussion Group List. The corresponding Discussion Group 504 is then added to the Discussion Groups 504 the user can utilize. By subscribing only to Discussion Groups 504 pertinent to the particular user’s interest and needs, the user can more quickly obtain needed information. Since the number of Discussion Groups 504 subscribed to by a particular user is generally much less than the total number of Discussion Groups 504 available, the user does not need to search through a large list of Discussion Groups 504 every time he or she needs information. Instead, the user selects only those Discussion Groups 504 that he or she will need most often. Thereafter, when the user desires information, he or she will generally only need to search through the Discussion Groups 504 the user has subscribed to. Thus, the search time is drastically reduced after the first use of the system.” The preceding text clearly indicates to facilitate effective access reasonably anticipates that a user or users must have a certain type of privilege to access or receive disseminated data from the source user/client. Clearly the users can obtain access to certain client systems, which in this case are discussion groups by joining or requesting to join that particular discussion group. By the user wishing to join discussion groups, clearly anticipates that a user is specifying access to some multiple client systems.; and executing said operation in said desired one of multiple client systems (i.e. *“In a further embodiment of the present invention, a preview of the item may be displayed after the creation thereof and prior to the storing thereof. In an additional embodiment of the present invention, a report may be generated that includes a predetermined number of the fields of the items corresponding to the depicted identifiers in response to a user interaction.”* The previous text clearly indicates that a user to specify an operation associated with data forming is the creation of the item displayed and executing the operation is the report generated.)(Column 24, lines 63-67; column 25, lines 1-2).

Art Unit: 2165

(5) "The art of record does not disclose or reasonably suggest such a feature at least for some of the reasons noted above with respect to currently amended claim 1."

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Point 5 has been addressed in points 1-3.

Any other arguments, made by the Applicant are more limiting than the claim language.

For these reasons, the rejection in an office action mailed on 12 May 2006 is sustained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Marpe et al (U.S. Patent 6,571,235 B1 and known hereinafter as Marpe)

As per claims 1 and 13, Marpe teaches a method of enabling a first client system to access a plurality of databases through a plurality of client systems contained in a manufacturing plant, wherein each of said plurality of client systems is already designed

to access data in only some of said plurality of databases, said method comprising (i.e.

"A method for facilitating effective access to application specific data in a discussion database. In use, the data is received from multiple users in a plurality of categories. To disseminate the data, access is provided to the data via an interface which not only lists, but also describes the categories. By describing the categories, a user may effectively select the categories on the interface which are most relevant. Such selection in turn subscribes the user to the data in the selected categories." The preceding text

clearly indicates that a first client system to enable user to access a plurality of databases is an interface, the plurality of client systems are multiple users, and the manufacturing plant is the intended use of using the database system to manipulate data.)(Abstract): executing a user application which is

related to operation/control of a manufacturing process in said manufacturing plant (i.e.

"A method for facilitating effective access to application specific data in a discussion database." The preceding text clearly indicates that a user application is an application. The operation/control of a manufacturing process in a manufacturing plant is the intended use of the database system.)(Abstract);

enabling said user to instantiate a user interface from said user application (i.e. *"As such, the Discussion Database Interface Page 600 is utilized by the user to subscribe to and access individual Discussion Groups 504."* The preceding text clearly indicates that a user interface is a discussion

database interface page from the user application, which is the discussion database. That is, the discussion database interface page provides an instance for the user to use the interface.)(Column 17,

lines 27-29); enabling said user to specify a database of interest and a search criteria

using said user interface, wherein a second client contained in said plurality of client systems is already designed to access data in said database of interest (i.e. *"Another area*

of functionality allows the user to search for one or more Status Reports in the Workbench database using a specified search criteria. FIG. 10A depicts an embodiment of the present invention which provides a method 1020 for querying a database which is storing a plurality of items generated by multiple users.

In operation 1022, users are allowed to create an item with a plurality of fields. The item is stored in a

database in operation 1024. The item should be stored with an identifier corresponding to the user. Upon receipt of a search query in operation 1026, the database is searched in operation 1028 using the search query." The preceding text clearly illustrates that the workbench database is a user specified database and the search criteria is the specified search criteria and the database of interest, which is the workbench database is accessible from a second client, which are users.)(column 24, lines 38-49); sending said search criteria to said second client (i.e. "1. From this screen the user can: 1. Click "Edit search criteria" to return to the main search screen to edit the search criteria.2. Click "Generate Detail Report" to create a report of all the Status Reports that met the search criteria." The preceding text clearly indicates that when a user clicks "Generate Detail Report," the search criteria are sent to the second client.)(Column 25, lines 41-43); receiving a corresponding response (i.e. "3. Click "Generate Summary Report" to create a report that displays a listing of all status reports that met the search criteria." The preceding text clearly indicates that the receiving a corresponding response is the result of clicking "Generate Summary Report.")(Column 25, lines 43-45); and displaying said corresponding response (i.e. "3. Click "Generate Summary Report" to create a report that displays a listing of all status reports that met the search criteria. 4. Click on an Owner to see the specific Status Report." The preceding text clearly indicates that displaying is the displays a list of all status reports that met the search criteria.)(column 25, lines 45-50).

As per claims 2 and 14, Marpe teaches a method said method further comprising: enabling said user to specify any desired one of multiple client systems and an operation associated with data forming said corresponding response; executing said operation in said desired one of multiple client systems (i.e. "In a further embodiment of the present invention, a preview of the item may be displayed after the creation thereof and prior to the storing thereof. In an additional embodiment of the present invention, a report may be generated that includes a predetermined number of the fields of the items corresponding to the depicted identifiers in

response to a user interaction." The previous text clearly indicates that a user to specify an operation associated with data forming is the creation of the item displayed and executing the operation is the report generated.)(Column 24, lines 63-67; column 25, lines 1-2).

As per claims 3 and 15, Marpe teaches a method wherein said user interface is implemented in the form of an access module executed when said user instantiates said user interface, said method further comprising: receiving data representing said operation in said user application; and sending said data representing said operation and data representing said response to said second client, wherein said second client executes said operation using said response (i.e. *"The Discussion Database coupled with the Discussion Database Interface Page 600 creates a "living library" which grows with each use, and grows with the knowledge of its users. As users acquire more knowledge and experience and other outside sources, they transfer that knowledge to the Discussion Database 500 utilizing the Discussion Database Interface Page 600. The transfer of knowledge to the Discussion Database 500, and helps keep the information contained in the Discussion Database 500 updated as new developments arise in various fields."*)(Column 17, lines 54-65).

As per claims 4 and 16, Marpe teaches a method wherein said data representing said response comprises an identifier of the data retrieved from said database of interest (i.e. *"In an embodiment of the present invention, a user may be allowed to edit a predetermined set of fields upon depicting the same in response to the selection of the associated identifier."* The preceding text clearly indicates that an identifier of the data retrieved is the associated identifier. These fields are contained in the Status Report tool of the Project Management Tool, which is part of the database management system.)(Column 24, lines 60-64).

As per claims 5 and 9, Marpe teaches a method of enabling a new user application to access data in a plurality of databases accessible through a corresponding plurality of user applications executing on a corresponding plurality of client systems, wherein said new user application and said plurality of user applications are related to operation/control of a manufacturing process in a manufacturing plant, said method comprising (i.e. *"A method for facilitating effective access to application specific data in a discussion database. In use, the data is received from multiple users in a plurality of categories. To disseminate the data, access is provided to the data via an interface which not only lists, but also describes the categories. By describing the categories, a user may effectively select the categories on the interface which are most relevant. Such selection in turn subscribes the user to the data in the selected categories."*)(Abstract): implementing a first plurality of procedures according to a first interface on each of said plurality of client systems, wherein said first plurality of procedures enable retrieval of desired data from a corresponding database accessible from the corresponding user application implemented on the corresponding client system (i.e. *"With Java.TM., developers can create robust User Interface (UI) components. Custom "widgets" (e.g., real-time stock tickers, animated icons, etc.) can be created, and client-side performance is improved. Unlike HTML, Java.TM. supports the notion of client-side validation, offloading appropriate processing onto the client for improved performance. Dynamic, real-time Web pages can be created. Using the above-mentioned custom UI components, dynamic Web pages can also be created"*)(Column 8, lines 46-54); and providing an access module which can be instantiated from said new user application, wherein said access module enables a user to specify a first database and a search query, wherein said first database is contained in said plurality of databases, wherein said access module uses said first plurality of procedures to retrieve

data matching said query (i.e. *"One embodiment of the M&A Engine includes a plurality of features for accomplishing the foregoing goals. For example, the present invention includes Navigation Chevron, a Discussion Database, a Discussion Database Interface Page, a 30/60/90 Plan, and a Merger Site Map. A workbench homepage is used to navigate the user through the M&A Engine environment."* The preceding text clearly indicates that the first database is the Discussion Database, which is contained in a plurality of databases, which are the Navigation Chevron, a Discussion Database, a Discussion Database Interface Page, etc.)(Column 10, lines 27-33).

As per claims 6 and 10, Marpe teaches a method further comprising implementing a second plurality of procedures according to a second interface, wherein said second plurality of procedures enable said access module to initiate and terminate an instance of said access module (i.e. *"The Project Management Tools allow users to access templates, create, store and retrieve documents and generate reports."* The preceding text clearly indicates that the second interface, which is initiated by the users, and a second plurality of procedures are the users accessing templates, create, store, and retrieve documents, and generate reports, and the access module is the Project Management Tools.)(Column 18, lines 17-20).

As per claims 7 and 11, Marpe teaches a method implementing a third plurality of procedures according to a third interface wherein said third plurality of procedures enable said access block to communicate an operation selected by said user, wherein said operation is executed on data accessed by said access module (i.e. *"The Project Management Tools allow users to access templates, create, store and retrieve documents and generate reports."* The preceding text clearly indicates that the third interface, which is initiated by the users, and a second plurality of procedures are the users accessing templates, create, store, and retrieve documents,

and generate reports, and the access module is the Project Management Tools.)(Column 18, lines 17-20).

As per claims 8 and 12, Marpe teaches a method wherein said operation is executed on a user application which retrieves said data from the corresponding database (i.e. "3. Click "Generate Summary Report" to create a report that displays a listing of all status reports that met the search criteria." The preceding text clearly indicates that the receiving a corresponding response is the result of clicking "Generate Summary Report.")(Column 25, lines 43-45).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farhan M. Syed whose telephone number is 571-272-7191. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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